

Canadian Vaccination Rollout: Implications for Possible Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)

This assessment was produced using open-source information only.

Key Points

- Canada began its national COVID-19 vaccination rollout in mid-December 2020. Known as Operation Vector, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) will play a role in the rollout. **s.3**

s.38

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Service Mandate

Adherents of IMVE are driven by a range of grievances and a selection of ideas from across the traditional left/right ideological spectrum. The resulting worldview often consists of a personalized narrative that centres on the willingness to incite, enable and/or mobilize to violence. Often, these individuals/cells act without a clear affiliation to a specific organized group or external guidance, but are nevertheless shaped by hateful voices and messages online that normalize and advocate violence. **s.3**

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As freedom of speech is constitutionally protected, Service concerns are raised once a threat actor rises to the threshold as outlined in section 2(c) of the *CSIS Act*.² **s.3**

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² 2(c) activities within or relating to Canada directed toward or in support of the threat or use of acts of serious violence against persons or property for the purpose of achieving a political, religious or *ideological* objective within Canada or a foreign state. **s.3**

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Online Troll Culture

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Adherents of IMVE and others are using the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to promote disinformation and alternative narratives regarding both the cause of the pandemic and potential societal outcomes. Blame for the pandemic focusses primarily on specific communities, global corporations, China, the government and societal elites. The Service assesses that individuals and groups adopt or promote those conspiracies that best suit their personalized worldviews and range of grievances. In particular, they include anti-government and ethno-nationalist views. Key anti-vaccination conspiracy narratives include s.38

- *Threat to liberty and freedom:* mass vaccinations constitute government overreach and pose an increasing threat to individual rights – vaccination will be mandatory and the government will establish ‘internment camps’ for those who do not adhere to government rules. The vaccination program is the next step towards the “New World Order”; s.3
- *Vaccine development, provision and access:* vaccines have only been tested on animals (taking the vaccination will constitute human testing); Russian and Chinese vaccines are safer and more effective; s.3
- *Safety and necessity:* rejection of the existence of the pandemic and/or its severity and the safety of the vaccination – the vaccine is not needed and causes a multitude of health issues (e.g. autism and mass sterilization of women) or will contain small microchips placed by the governments; s.3
- *Political and economic:* lack of confidence in government and scientific advice – governments are corrupt and puppets of big business; the pandemic was man-made to the financial enrichment of politicians and international corporations. s.3

s.38

⁴ The New World Order (NWO) hypothesizes a secretly emerging totalitarian world government. The common theme regarding a New World Order is that a secretive power elite with a globalist agenda is conspiring to eventually rule the world through an authoritarian world government — which will replace sovereign nation states — and an all-encompassing propaganda whose ideology hails the establishment of the New World Order as the culmination of history's progress. s.3

⁵ In particular, conspiracy theories relating to vaccination safety will be linked to instances (real or perceived) regarding adverse reactions. s.3

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What is QAnon?

QAnon is a decentralized violent anti-establishment ideology that revolves around the belief that a global "Deep State" cabal of satanic pedophile elites is responsible for all the evil in the world. In this narrative, political opponents are viewed as enemies of humanity.

QAnon ideology has already led to several acts of violence in the United States. s.38

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Canadian Extremists

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Public Opposition to COVID-19/Vaccination Development and Distribution

Calls for Direct Action

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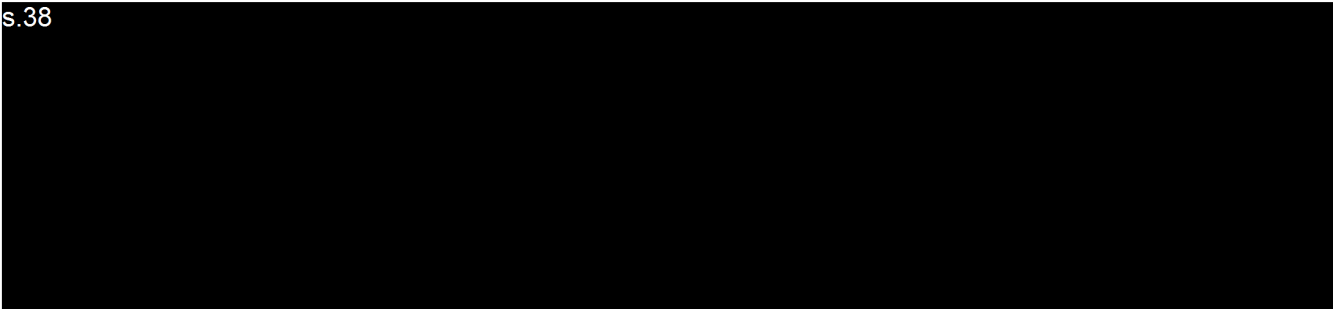
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⁶ An unclassified document produced by the Chief of the Defence Staff entitled *CDS Planning Directive – Operation Vector – CAF Support to COVID-19 Vaccine Roll Out* was cited online as 'proof' of the lengths to which the government will go to force immunize the entire population of Canada. s.38

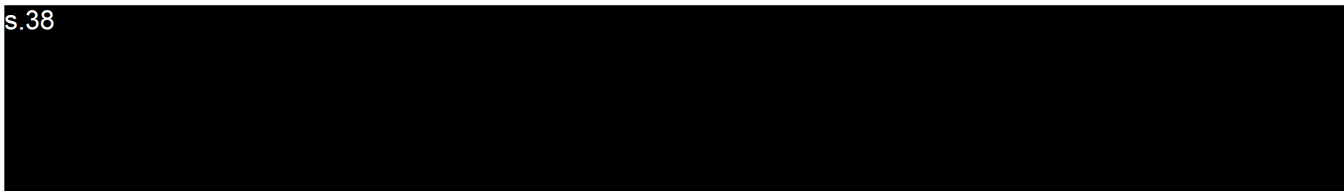
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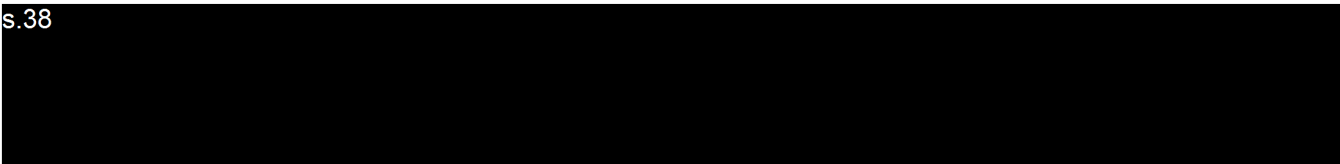


Outlook

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